AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claims 1, 3, 5-8, 10-16, 18 and 19 were pending at the time of the Office Action.

Claim 12 is cancelled.

Claims 1, 6-7, 13-16, and 18-19 are amended.

Claims 1, 3, 5-8, 10-11, 13-16, 18 and 19 remain pending.

1. (Currently Amended) A cable drop support system comprising:

a base configured ~~adapted~~ for attachment to ~~a~~ an attachment surface;

one or more segments ~~at least one segment~~ connected to the base;

a cable receptacle attached to an end portion of the at least one segment, the cable receptacle having a generally U-shaped cross-section for receiving therein at least an intermediate portion of a cable;

a control system operatively associated with the cable drop support system, the control system configured for receiving instructions communicated through at least one communication media;

a portable communication device configured to provide instructions to the control system through the at least one communication media; and

at least one mechanical drive mechanism operatively coupled to respond to the control system, the at least one mechanical drive mechanism configured to at least one of extend and retract the one or more segments.

2. (Withdrawn) The cable drop support system of Claim 1, wherein the attachment surface includes a surface area portion of a service vehicle.

3. (Original) The cable drop support system of Claim 1, wherein the base includes at least one attachment device structured for attachment of the base to the attachment surface.

4. (Withdrawn) The cable drop support system of Claim 3, wherein the base is substantially permanently attached to the attachment surface.

5. (Original) The cable drop support system of Claim 3, wherein the base is removably attached to the attachment surface.

6. (Currently Amended) The cable drop support system of Claim 1, wherein the one or more segments include ~~further comprising~~ at least a second segment attached to a first ~~the at least one~~ segment.

7. (Currently Amended) The cable drop support system of Claim 6, wherein ~~further comprising~~ the one or more segments are ~~being~~ structured in a telescoping configuration.

8. (Original) The cable drop support system of Claim 1, wherein the cable receptacle includes a generally upwardly open U-shaped configuration.

9. (Cancelled).

10. (Previously Presented) The cable drop support system of Claim 1, wherein the control system is selected from the group consisting of a computer system, a processor, and a manual control.

11. (Previously Presented) The cable drop support system of Claim 1, wherein the communication media includes at least one of a wireless medium and a wireline medium.

12. (Cancelled).

13. (Currently Amended) The cable drop support system of Claim 1 ~~Claim 12~~, wherein the communication device is selected from the group consisting of a remote control device, a laptop, a personal digital assistant, and a telephone.

14. (Currently Amended) The cable drop support system of Claim 1, wherein the portable communication device is further configured to provide instructions ~~further comprising at least one remote control device operative over the communication media~~ to cause the mechanical drive mechanism to at least one of extend and retract the cable receptacle relative to the base.

15. (Currently Amended) The cable drop support system of Claim 14, wherein the one or more segments include ~~further comprising~~ at least a second segment attached to a first ~~the at least one~~ segment.

16. (Currently Amended) The cable drop support system of Claim 15, wherein the ~~further comprising the first and second~~ one or more segments are ~~being~~ structured in a telescoping configuration.

17. (Withdrawn) The cable drop support system of Claim 16, further comprising a hand crank operatively associated with the mechanical drive mechanism.

18. (Currently Amended) The cable drop support system of Claim 1, wherein the one or more ~~at least one~~ segments includes a substantially stationary segment attached to the base.

19. (Currently Amended) A cable drop support system comprising:

a base configured ~~adapted~~ for attachment to ~~a~~ an attachment surface, wherein the attachment surface includes a surface portion area of a service vehicle;

a first segment connected to the base;

at least a second segment attached to the first segment, the first and second segments being structured in a telescoping configuration;

a cable receptacle attached to an end portion of one of the segments, the cable receptacle having a generally upwardly open U-shaped cross-section for receiving therein an intermediate portion of a cable and for supporting the intermediate portion of the cable;

a control system operatively associated with the cable drop support system, the control system configured for receiving instructions communicated through at least a wireless ~~one~~ communication media; and

at least one mechanical drive mechanism operatively coupled to respond to the control system, the at least one mechanical drive mechanism configured to at least one of extend and retract the first and second segments.

20. (Withdrawn) A cable drop support system for facilitating installation of a cable between at least two elevated structures, with a portion of the cable being

secured to a first one of the elevated structures and with a second portion of the cable to be secured to at least a second one of the elevated structures, the system comprising:

a base adapted for attachment to a surface, wherein the attachment surface includes a surface area portion of a service vehicle;

a first segment connected to the base;

at least a second segment attached to the first segment, the first and second segments being structured in a telescoping configuration to extend vertically away from the base;

a cable receptacle attached to a portion of at least one of the segments, the cable receptacle being structured for receiving therein at least a portion of the cable, the cable receptacle including a generally upwardly open U-shaped configuration;

at least one computer-based control system operatively associated with the cable drop support system, the control system configured for receiving instructions communicated through at least one wireless communication media from at least one communication device from a technician, wherein the communication device is selected from the group consisting of a remote control device, a laptop, a personal digital assistant, and a telephone;

at least one mechanical drive mechanism operatively coupled to the control system and to the first and second segments to selectively extend the cable receptacle in response to the instructions, whereby when the second portion of the cable is placed in the cable receptacle and the cable receptacle is extended, the second portion of the cable

is raised toward the second elevated structure to facilitate securing the second portion of the cable thereto; and

a battery coupled to provide power to the mechanical drive mechanism.

21. (Withdrawn) A method comprising:

attaching a first end of a cable to a first elevated structure;

placing an intermediate portion of the cable into the cable receptacle provided by a cable drop support system;

extending the cable receptacle to raise the intermediate portion of the cable; and

transporting a balance of the cable to a second elevated structure.

22. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 21, wherein placing an intermediate portion of the cable into a cable receptacle includes placing the portion of the cable into a generally U-shaped receptacle.

23. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 21, further comprising attaching a base of the cable drop support system to a surface.

24. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 21, where in extending the cable receptacle includes extending the cable receptacle away from the surface and raising the intermediate portion of the cable relative to the surface.